

Message Text

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TAGS: PINS

SUBJ: COLOMBO PLO REPRESENTATIVE STATES NO HALT IN PLO
MILITARY ACTION AGAINST ISRAEL, NO ABANDONMENT OF
ULTIMATE GOAL FOR "WHOLE" PALESTINIAN STATE

1. FOLLOWING IS SOLE PRESS ACCOUNT OF SUBJECT SPEECH TO APPEAR
IN COLOMBO FROM PAGE 5, APRIL 8 ENGLISH LANGUAGE "CEYLON DAILY
NEWS" UNDER HEAD "WEST HAS CONSPIRED TO KEEP UN TROOPS IN
LEBANON."

2. BEGIN TEXT: THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE KEEPING FORCE IN
SOUTHERN LEBANON WOULD NOT PREVENT THE PALESTINIANS FROM CARRY-
ING OUT THEIR MILITARY OPERATIONS AGAINST ISRAEL THE DIRECTOR
OF THE PALESTINIAN LIBERATION ORGANIZATION (PLO) IN SRI LANKA,
MR. MOHAMED ABU-AL-A'DI TOLD THE FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS
ASSOCIATION OF SRI LANKA ON THURSDAY.

ABU AL A'DU WAS SPEAKING ON THE CURRENT SITUATION IN THE
MIDDLE EAST IN THE FIRST OF A SERIES OF TALKS ORGANIZED
BY THE FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS ASSOCIATION TO DISCUSS THE
DEVELOPING SITUATION THERE.

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HE SAID THAT THE PRESENCE OF THE UN PEACE-KEEPING FORCE WAS
PART OF A WESTERN CONSPIRACY.

BUT THE LEADER OF THE PLO YASSER ARAFAT HAD AGREED TO
COOPERATE WITH THE UN TROOPS AND EXTEND THEIR FULL SUPPORT BE-
CAUSE THE PALESTINIANS WANT THE ISRAELIS OUT OF SOUTHERN
LEBANON.

TO ACHIEVE THAT END THE PLO WOULD COOPERATE WITH THE UN

FOCES BUT THEIR PRESENCE WOULD NOT HALT PALESTINIANS' MILITARY ACTION AGAINST ISRAEL.

HE SAID THAT THE OFFICIAL POLICY OF THE PLO WAS THAT IT WANTED THE WHOLE OF PALESTINE FOR A PALESTINIAN STATE. BUT INITIALLY THEY WOULD SETTLE FOR A SMALLER SATATE OF PALESTINE WITHOUT ABANDONING THE ULTIMATE GOAL.

THE PLO DIRECTOR SAID THAT THE RECENT PALESTINIAN "MILITARY OPERATIONS" AGAINST ISRAEL WAS NOT CARRIED OUT BY SEA AS CALIMED BY THE ISRAELIS BUT WAS ENTIRELY A LAND OPERATION.

IT WAS NOT THE INTENTION OF THE PALESTINIANS TO HURT OR OPERATE AGAINST CIVILIANS.

ASKED HOW THE PALESTINIANS COULD JUSTIFY THE HIJACKING OF COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT WITH CIVILIAN PASSENGERS, THE DIRECTOR SAID THAT THE PLO WAS AGAINST SUCH ACTIONS.

HOWEVER THERE WERE PALESTINIAN GROUPS WHICH HAD BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR SUCH HIJACKING WHICH THE PLO DID NOT APPROVE.

HE SAID THAT THERE WERE THREE ASPECTS OF THE MIDDLE EAST SITUATION. FIRSTLY SOME ARABS AND ISRAELIS HAD INITIATED NEGOTIATIONS BUT THE PALESTINIANS WHO WERE THE KEY TO THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM HAD NOT BEEN INCLUDED IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS.

SECONDLY ISRAEL WAS STRENGTHENING ITSELF MILITARILY AND ITS INVASION OF SOUTHERN LEBANON SHOWED THAT ISRAEL HAS EXPANSIONIST INTENTIONS.

THE THIRD FACTOR IN THE CURRENT SITUATION WAS THAT THE PALESTINIANS WOULD CONTINUE THE WAR AGAINST ISRAEL, AND NO PEACE WAS POSSIBLE WITHOUT GRANTING THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS

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OF THE PALESTINIANS.

MR. CLARENCE FERNANDO, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION PRESIDED. END TEXT.

WRIGGINS

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